

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 13, 2007

The Honorable Herb Kohl  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations,  
Subcommittee on Agriculture  
123 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Bennett  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations,  
Subcommittee on Agriculture  
188 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Kohl and Ranking Member Bennett:

We ask for your continued support for funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in the Fiscal Year 2008 Agriculture Appropriations bill. As you know, CSFP is a complement to—not a substitute for—the Food Stamp Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

We urge you to appropriate sufficient resources so that providers can maintain at least their existing caseload. In 2006, CSFP provided more than 6 million food packages for nearly 500,000 mothers, infants, children, and low-income seniors across the nation. CSFP food packages are designed to supplement needed sources of nutrients typically lacking in recipients' diets, including protein, iron, zinc, and vitamins B-6 and B-12. CSFP providers also have been very cost efficient: the typical food package has a retail value between \$40 to \$50 but costs the government about \$16 per participant a month.

Additionally, USDA has approved five states—Arkansas, Delaware, Oklahoma, New Jersey, and Utah—to participate in CSFP, but because of insufficient resources, these states cannot begin implementing their plans and are not able to serve those most in need. By including an additional \$3.9 million for CSFP, more than 20,000 seniors and children could be served.

We appreciate your consideration of this important request and look forward to working with you to ensure no American goes hungry.

Sincerely,









Bob Carey, Jr.

Norm Fingert

C. B. Ste...

Tom Wya

M. H. W...

Bob Sanders

Tom Harkin

Chuck Grassley

Tom Loya

Bob...

Dick Durbin

Norm Coleman

Mary Carbone

Dan Vitter

Tom F. Kelly

Chuck Schumer

Robert M. LaSalle

Bob Dole

Ken Salazar

Ben Ray Lujan

Jon Tester

Hillary Rodham Clinton

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Patrick Leahy

Carl Levin

Max Baucus

Sheldon Whitehouse

Angus King

Mary Landry

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